

The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 3
MARCH 2007

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.



"BOB'S BARREL" Robert Crocker WN70

March is here and so is the fickle weather. Time to make sure that our emergency kit is up-to-date, batteries charged, and radios set for what this month's emergencies may bring. March has always been a strange month with a variety of problems. We need to be ready.

Congratulations are in order to the many members who responded to the call to notify their state representatives with regard to the many bills that were introduced in Salem prohibiting the use of mobile communications devices. The legislature decided to scrap these bills and concentrate on a bill that would give the police authority to ticket someone driving while distracted.

It became apparent that our monthly meetings at the Elks Lodge are becoming increasingly difficult without food service. The social time and friendly atmosphere we enjoyed has become difficult to achieve. We need to find a location that provides the environment conducive to our needs. Any suggestions? Let us know how you feel about changing location.

SEA-PAC is doing well. We will have and update at our March meeting. Will has done an excellent job keeping the convention on track.

Field day is coming up. Hopefully J. D. can give us a review on what plans he has made for this event. We should have some new General and
See Barrel Page 3

TECHNICIAN LICENSE PREP CLASSES

The club offers free classes preparing prospective amateur radio operators to take the entry-level Technician Class Amateur Radio License exam. The next series of classes will take place under the leadership of Janet WB7FJC and John KA7BRZ.

Why not pass this information along to those family and friends who have always wanted to obtain a ham radio license? Morse Code is no longer a requirement for any class of amateur radio license.

FREE TECHNICIAN CLASS LICENSE PREP

March 17, 24, and 31
1:00 - 4:00 pm

TVF&R Fire Station 67
Farmington Road
Beaverton

Class session make use of video taped instruction. Licensed amateur radio operators are present to assist with questions. You'll find additional information on the club web site at:

www.otvarc.org/Classes

CLUB MEETING

WEDNESDAY, March 14th

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month, usually at **The Beaverton Elks' Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton.**, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings. No amateur radio license is required to attend or for membership.

The Elks' have discontinued their evening Buffet.

See you on March 14th.

Happy March Birthday

2	J.D. Fort	K7JDF
6	Gene Buell	KA7K8H
7	Everett Curry	W6ABM
10	Geno Gray	K7GY
10	Randy Stimson	KZ7T
12	Ray Deeth	K7VDQ
12	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP
14	Jack Brutcher	W7AAJ
16	Frank Ravenswood	K2NCC
16	Robert D Jones	KD7YDW
17	Patrick Roberson	N7PAT
19	Will Hobbs	W17O
21	Joe Mohr	KC7ZZX
22	Al Berg	W7SIC
24	Ray Casey Jr	KB7YVN
24	Ira Rubin	KF7QS
28	Arch Doty	W7ACD

Updates and corrections to
w6abm@arrrl.net

OREGON LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Oregon Legislature has abandoned efforts to prohibit the use of cell phones and two-way radios while operating a car. Instead, they are focusing on legislation allowing police to ticket people for "distracted driving." This is a significantly different approach than the straight ban because the fine is based on the actual driving behavior, not the mere use of a device. It is my opinion that amateur radio operators should not move to exempt themselves from this new legislation because it is based on driving behavior.

Thanks to everyone who contacted their Senators and Representatives about this issue. I am confident that our contacts were a key piece that helped them realize the original idea was flawed. I would encourage everyone to send a quick note to their legislators with a "Thank you" and an offer to be a resource for them on other issues related amateur radio. We'll continue to keep an eye on the Legislature in case something new pops up. Kevin Curry KA7KYQ, State Government Liaison.

SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING



The Chuck Mickley Memorial Scholarship is offered to a student who is a licensed amateur radio operator. The club sponsors this \$ 1,000.00 scholarship through its fund raising activities each year (Sea-Pac, drawings, etc.).

This year, you'll have a chance to put a new Yaesu FT-2800M to work if your number is selected. Tickets will be \$1.00 each and twelve for \$10.00. The drawing will take place at SEA-PAC '07 on Sunday, June 3rd in Seaside. You do not have to be present to win. This rig was donated by a member for this fund raiser.

Who will take this beauty home?

146.960 MHz Repeater By Shoutcast

The club's 146.960 MHz Repeater is heard via the Internet at www.shoutcast.com. Search for W7OTV. The stream is up 24/7 at 48 kbps with a max of 32 listeners. Listening only, no transmit capability.

January 17 - February 17 Statistics

Location	Visitors	Duration
United States	102	1d 11:43:13
Canada	28	8:17:33
Sweden	5	2:02:19
Germany	5	53:45
Australia	3	4:04
Puerto Rico	3	9:09
Denmark	3	18:09
France	2	5:41
Bermuda	1	2:15
Netherlands	1	10:08
Spain	1	1:23
Ecuador	1	1:28
Hungary	1	2:23
Bahamas	1	4:44
Taiwan	1	1:05
Belgium	1	2:34
Finland	1	1:29
Total	160	2d 00:01:22

73. Frank, K2NCC@arrl.net

LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday March 24th
1:30 pm

TOM'S PANCAKE HOUSE

12925 S.W. Canyon Rd.
Beaverton, Oregon
503.646.2688

Lunch with Members - Historic Tom's Pancake House

Everyone welcome!

For More Information
call KC7YTD Linda
503.246.8879

FEBRUARY 3RD VE SESSION

Our Saturday February 3rd was the largest we have seen since the major rule change in 2000. We had a total of 34 applicants. The volume of applicants was partly a coincidence due to a large group of new Technicians who had gone through a class sponsored by an LDS church. We issued 25 new Technician licenses, 2 Generals, and 1 Extra. Six applicants earned their CSEs for General, to be upgraded after the code requirement goes away on Feb 23. Amazingly, not a single examination was failed at this session!

Special thanks go to *Will N7THL* and *Everett W6ABM* who conducted the session while I was out of town having fun. Will acted as session leader and Everett was a team leader. They managed an unexpectedly large group most adroitly. Many thanks to the rest of the team who stayed longer than usual to clear all the applicants. It is a testament to everyone's ability that they were able to conclude the session in only 3 hours. The rest of the team consisted of *Jennifer K7NAA*, *Joel AD7IS*, *Claire N7CM*, *Ernie K7EAJ*, *John KA7BRZ*, *Monty AB7WS*, and *Andy KE7AUB*.

We expect another phenomenal turnout at our March 3rd session which will be our first to be held after the code is dropped.

If you are an Extra class VE with a desire to serve and you haven't been hearing from me lately then please get in touch. I may have inadvertently lost track of you on my poorly-maintained VE list. Call me at 503-629-5796 or email ws7l@arrl.net.

Sessions are held on the first Saturday of each month at Ronler Acres fire station in Hillsboro.

73, Carl WS7L

Barrel, from Page 1

Extra class license volunteers to operate the radios. This is our fun outing and get together. Bring the family.

See everyone March 14th.

73

Robert WN7O

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PLANS FOR D-STAR SYSTEM

ARES D-STAR INTEREST GROUP MEETING

Friday, March 9th

6:00 - 9:00 pm

All are invited

We'll discuss D-STAR and make plans
for short term and long term

There are lots of questions about the system
and we will even have some answers.

Check out the D-STAR section of the web site.
www.washcoares.org/d-star/index.html

Ronler Fire Station
229th and Evergreen Parkway
Across from the Hillsboro Stadium

ARRL DX CONTEST - MARCH 3 - 4

While the sounds of 2 days of working "pile-ups" and chanting "Whiskey-Seven-Oscar-Tango-Victor, 59 Oregon-Oscar Romeo" are still running around in my head, here is a summary of the Contest results:

* Total Contacts	95
* Total QSO points	285
* Total Multipliers	51
* Total Score	14,535

80-meters:	7 QSO's	5 Countries
40-meters:	20 QSO's	13 Countries
20-meters:	41 QSO's	15 Countries
15-meters:	27 QSO's	18 Countries
10-meters:	0 QSO's	0 Countries

Band conditions were not the best and competition to be heard was as tough as it gets. Hopefully we set the bar low enough this year that we can better our performance next time.

Thanks for everyone who participated or stopped by. We really put W7OTV on the air around the world this time. Three contacts stand-out. Saturday we worked *the Falkland Islands and Finland*. Sunday morning, (I woke up really early) *New Zealand* was worked on 40-meters. These three contacts alone pretty well cover the world! All with a simple dipole and 100-watts.

Ron O'Connor - KD7VIK

TRAVELERS'

The TRAVELERS' events for 2007 can be found on our website: www.otvarc.org.

For your calendar:

May 19-20

at Sunnyside County Park, near Foster Lake

June 23-25

Field Day

September 15-16

Waterloo County Park, east of Lebanon

November 17-18

Wandering Spirit RV Park, Grand Ronde

General information on Travelers' events may be obtained from Betty N7REX at n7rex@teleport.com, 503.642.1284 or Geno KA7KBH, 503.614.0563.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE, Proceeds to MICKLEY SCHOLARSHIP:

Antique Radio Majestic 7

All Electronics + Free Standing Cabinet
Believed to be complete
\$50.00 or best offer prior to Sea-Pac

HAM M ROTATOR Miscellaneous Parts \$10.00

For Details, Contact Everett W6ABM

St. Patrick says:

My lips feel blessed & protected from March winds with my favorite



OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
mcorourke@netzero.com

Available at University of Oregon's Duck Shop in downtown Portland

GENERAL CLASS UPGRADE CLASSES

Plans are underway for our General Class Upgrade Classes. We expect to offer a three-session series, Saturdays, April 14, 21, and 28 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm each day. No cost.

You will be prepared for the May 5 Exam session at Ronler Acres sponsored by the club. Exam fee is \$14.00 to ARRL VEC.

The course will follow the W5YI Study Guide, which is recommended for this class.

Location to be announced.

APRS Event

Washington County ARES APRS Training
Thursday, March 22nd
6:00 - 9:00 pm

*** **

Bring a portable packet station to the session and we will install APRS+SA software. We'll train you to receive APRS and display data. Running live demonstrations of APRS for all to see.

Ronler Fire Station
229th and Evergreen Parkway
Across from Hillsboro Stadium
Hillsboro

Joe W6AEQ	LAKE OSWEGO, OR
Mike KB7ME	VANCOUVER, WA
Dick K7KTP	NORTH PORTLAND, OR
Frank KA7CGG	VANCOUVER, WA
Joe K7JOE	NW PORTLAND, OR
Kyle KD7ZZZ	BATTLE GROUND, WA
Mike W7TUX	VANCOUVER, WA
Gary W7TAV	HILLSBORO, OR
Bob KD7EX	CAMAS, WA
Larry KD7HVV	MILWAUKIE, OR
Wes AC7DZ	SE PORTLAND, OR
Mary Anne W7MAS	PORTLAND, OR
Gary K7VBY	SE PORTLAND, OR
Eric WA7YSU	HILLSBORO, OR
Richard KC7LTI	PORTLAND, OR
Marc KD7DEG	ESTACADA, OR
John KD7ZSC	OREGON CITY, OR
Gary K7VBY	SE PORTLAND, OR
Amber KE7ANW	TROUTDALE, OR
Rick W7RJA	PORTLAND, OR
Richard N6UMR	SALEM, OR
Tom AB7TU	GLADSTONE, OR
Ben KE7DKG	FOREST GROVE, OR
John KD7LBM	BEAVERCREEK, OR
Jack N7UQS	MC MINNVILLE, OR
Jerry KE7GU	PORTLAND, OR
Paul KD7UWO	VANCOUVER, WA
Mark K7LEN	BEAVERCREEK, OR
Tom KD7NQL	MILWAUKIE, OR
Adam KD7TBN	TROUTDALE, OR
Keith KD7OFV	ALOHA, OR
Don AC7NU	BEAVERTON, OR
David KD7QLV	TROUTDALE, OR
Dan KD7NHJ	FOREST GROVE, OR
Bob KD7LPB	CAMAS, WA
Clay W7CBN	SAINT HELENS, OR
Duane W7HW	SILVERTON, OR

FEBRUARY 23RD 10-METER "WELCOME NET"

These stations turned out on 10 meters for the "Welcome to HF net" Thursday, February 23rd when the Technician Class operators got Technician Plus Class privileges. Most of the people on the net were long time Hams who wanted to welcome new people to HF. It was a great opportunity to see how 10 Meters is doing.

Joe K7JOE, in northwest Portland was able to work a California station earlier but propagation was mainly local ground wave for our net session. We used a lot of relaying to cover the area.

Bob KD7EX/mobile did a the job from Prune Hill behind Camas and acted as relay and Secondary Net Control. Thanks to Bob for his help.

28.400 MHz USB is the local gathering spot in the evenings in the Portland area. It's a good idea to keep this one plugged into your rig or scanner to keep up on 10 meters.

28.345 is a 10-10 hangout for those interested in working 10-10 numbers. Check this frequency out often. For more information go to:

www.ten-ten.org

Ten Meters has been opening often...sometimes briefly, but more often than in the last two years. Give a listen on Ten.

Practical Antennas For The Low Bands

SEA-PAC FRIDAY WORKSHOP Practical Antennas For The Low Bands

Presented by Rudy Severns N6LF

Friday, June 1st
12:30 - 5:00 pm
Limited to 100 persons

Pre-registered - \$15.00
At the door if available - \$18.00

We are near the bottom of the sunspot cycle and the low bands (40 - 160 Meters) are hot. This workshop is intended to help you get practical and high performance antennas going on the low bands.

The workshop will begin with a careful look at shortened antennas for restricted space and how to make them efficient. Then we'll move on to larger wire antennas and some simple array examples.

There will be a good deal of talk about ground systems, when and where they are needed and how to make them efficient. The emphasis will be on simple and economical antennas that the average ham can build.

Rudy Severns is a retired electrical engineer. He was first licensed in 1953 as WN7WAG. He holds an Extra Class license, a Bachelor in Science in Engineering from UCLA and is the author of two books and more than 80 technical papers. He is a fellow of the IEEE and teaches electrical engineering courses at Oregon State University.

In ancient times he held 1st radiotelephone and second radiotelegraph licenses, was a radio operator on a special forces A-team and a radioman in the naval reserve.

Friday Workshop registration does NOT include *SEA-PAC* entry. Go to www.seapac.org for registration information. Register online at that same address.

OREGON WEATHER NET

The Oregon Weather Net, properly the Oregon Emergency Management Net, operates daily for the purpose of collecting weather information throughout Oregon. In addition, some stations check in from the states of California, Idaho and Washington. The information is forwarded, by computer, to the National Weather Service in Portland and is posted on the internet for general use at:

www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr/get.php?pil=OSO&sid=PDX

The net opens at 8:00 am (early check-ins at 7:30 am) on or about the frequency of 3990 KHz. During times of national, state or local emergency, the net will operate in conjunction with the State RACES Net on a frequency of 3993.5 KHz. Roll call is taken with an alphabetical listing of Oregon's thirty-six counties.

ALL AMATEUR RADIO STATIONS ARE WELCOME TO CHECK INTO THIS NET!

TREAT CONTAMINATED WATER

Know How to Treat Contaminated Water

When water is of questionable purity, it is easiest to use bottled water for drinking and cooking if it is available. When it's not available, it is important to know how to treat contaminated water.

In addition to having a bad odor and taste, water from questionable sources may be contaminated by a variety of microorganisms, including, bacteria and parasites that cause diseases such as dysentery, cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis. All water of uncertain purity should be treated before use.

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EMERGENCY FIRST AID KIT

Assemble a first aid kit for your home and one for each car.

- (20) adhesive bandages, various sizes
- (1) 5" x 9" sterile dressing
- (1) conforming roller gauze bandage
- (2) triangular bandages
- (2) 3 x 3 sterile gauze pads
- (2) 4 x 4 sterile gauze pads
- (1) roll 3" cohesive bandage
- (2) germicidal hand wipes or waterless alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- (6) antiseptic wipes
- (2) pair large medical grade non-latex gloves
- Adhesive tape, 2" width
- Anti-bacterial ointment
- Cold pack
- Scissors (small, personal)
- Tweezers
- CPR breathing barrier, such as a face shield

Registration for SEA-PAC '07

The 25th edition of SEA-PAC will take place June 1-3, 2007 in Seaside, Oregon. SEA-PAC is the ARRL Northwestern Division Convention. Register online at www.seapac.org before Tuesday, May 15th and you will be added to the "Early Bird" drawing.

SEA-PAC is "the best deal in ham radio conventions" by far. More than two thousand participants enjoy flea market tables, commercial exhibitors, workshops, and "eye-ball" QSOs over June 1-3. Registration remains \$8.00 per person in advance, \$10.00 at the door for the full two-day convention. A special Friday afternoon Antenna Workshop is also available when you register for \$15.00 in advance and \$18.00 at the door on a space-available basis.

Al W7SIC, Will N7THL, and Wayne AI9Q serve as SEA-PAC Committee Chairs for OTVARC on behalf of The Northwestern Division, ARRL.

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HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

10 March 2007

Electronics Fleamarket

Mike & Key ARC
www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm
Talk-In: 146.82/22 (PL 103.5)
Michael Dinkelman N7WA
22222 148th Avenue SE
Kent WA 98042
425-867-4797
mwdink@eskimo.com

31 MARCH - 1 APRIL

Communications Academy 2007

Seattle Auxiliary Communications Service, WWA
Medical Service Comm., Shoreline ACS, & King County
Support Team
<http://www.commacademy.org>
Marina Zuetell N7LSL
PO Box 15624
Seattle WA 98115
206.524.6567
n7lsl@arrrl.net

27 - 29 April 2007

International DX Convention

Northern California DX Club
www.dxconvention.org
John Eisenberg, K6YP
25 Parsons Way
Los Altos, CA 94022
650-941-7426
650-941-7426
k6yp@arrrl.net

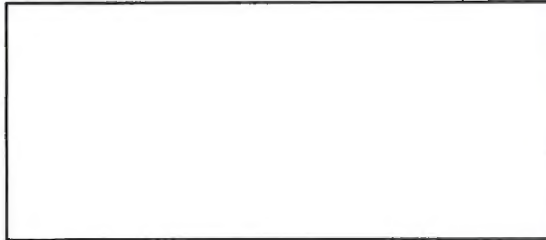
1 - 3 June 2007

SEA-PAC

Northwestern Division Convention

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC
www.seapac.org
Talk-In: 146.660
C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q
16414 NE 21st Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98684
Phone: 360-892-5580
Fax: 360-892-5580
Email: ai9q@arrrl.net

**CLUB MEETING
MARCH 14TH**



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Web: WWW.OTVARC.ORG
w7otv@arrl.net
Simplex: 147.54 MHz
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz (Goat Mtn)
223.94 MHz (Goat Mtn)
440.250 MHz (Goat Mtn)
440.350 MHz (127.3 KGON Tower)
Editor: Everet W6ABM w6abm@arrl.net

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258



www.seapac.org
NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION
Seaside Oregon
New Dates:
June 1, 2 & 3, 2007

NOVICE AIDS INTERNATIONAL RESCUE AT SEA

Ken Barnes, 47, left Long Beach, California, late last October, hoping to be the first person to sail around the world from the West Coast. A severe storm dismantled, badly damaged the vessel, the 44-foot ketch Pivateer, and left it foundering off South America. At the time of his rescue, it was announced by the Associated Press that ham radio played a key role in saving him. A California radio amateur, Miguel "Mike" Morales, KC6CYK, of Riverside played a part in an international effort to rescue Barnes. Morales is a Novice Class ham licensee.

At the time of the rescue, amateur radio operators were critical of Morales assuming he had not followed the rules of his license class. However, it later turns out that he was able to contact fellow radio amateurs he knew in Chile to obtain and relay reassuring information to the family of Ken Barnes.

A Chilean, Morales said he was able to gather information via his Chilean ham radio contacts from the Polar Pesca 1, a vessel near Barnes. He relayed information about Barnes's location and when he was going to be rescued. Morales said he felt it was important for the family to know Barnes's situation and how the rescue plans were playing out. Morales said, "I was lucky enough, I got in touch with some of the Charlie Echo [CE-prefix] stations until I got to someone in Punta Arenas, and then Polar Pesca, the vessel that did the rescue." Morales speaks fluent Spanish and has visited Chile. "As a result, he was able to obtain credible reports via his 10-meter contacts as to what was happening.

Our congratulations to Morales for his quick action.